[Mr. K. Madhava Kurup.]

bearing on the scope of the scheme the Municipal Council has decided upon.

(c) No. He can submit a report to Government only after he receives the reply of the President whom he has reminded.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer to (c).

Dust in roads.

311. *MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they are aware of the dust problem in the various roads in the State; and

(b) whether they have received any offer from anybody suggesting a contrivance to absorb the dust?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

Fee concession in College classes.

312. * MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the communities that receive fee concession in college classes in the State?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Director of Public Instruction*): Students of the Mahomedan community alone are eligible for fee concession in departmental colleges.

Opening of Rural Libraries.

313. * MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether new rural libraries are to be opened from the beginning of the next school year in any of the Vernacular schools;

(b) whether the Director of Public Instruction has received any application for opening a rural library in Pallickal V. P. Girls' School in Mavelikara taluk; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, the step taken on the same?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Director of Public Instruction*):

(a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) No.

(c) This does not arise in view of answer to part (b).

The A. V. M. Canal.

314. * MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate resuming the work of completing the A. V. M. Canal as originally proposed?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. ESWARA PILLI (*Kalkulam II*): May I know how far the A. V. M. Canal is navigable now?

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MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): About 2½ miles.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know the approximate cost that would be required for completing the work?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): About Rs. 5 or 6 lakhs.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Will the Government take up this canal also, complete it and make it navigable, in the course of their general scheme of the improvement of the water-ways in the State?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The development of water-ways generally is under consideration.

Railway Station at Veli.

316. *MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the estimate for the new railway station at Veli is sanctioned; and

(*b*) at what stage the scheme is at present?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No. A revised estimate has been called for from the Railway Administration and it is awaited.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), the question does not arise.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know the estimated amount as per the original estimate?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): There was a rough estimate for about Rs. 60,000.

Valans qualified to vote for the Sri Mulam Assembly.

316. *MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Valans qualified as voters to the Sri Mulam Assembly under the new Electoral Rules?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The information can be gathered only by taking an individual census of Vala electors. This work involves a good deal of time and labour which, Government consider, will be out of proportion to its possible utility.

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